

WHAT'S *New*

in the Metropolitan Police Department



*A weekly update for residents, visitors,
and workers in the District of Columbia*

Friday, May 12, 2006

CHIEF'S CITIZEN ADVISORY COUNCIL STEPPING UP EFFORTS TO HELP DC YOUTH THIS SUMMER

The Chief of Police's Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) is undertaking another ambitious effort to raise money to help at-risk youth in the District this summer. A major focus is on rehabilitating more cabins at Camp Ernest W. Brown, in Scotland, Maryland. Camp Brown is sponsored by the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs, a component of the Boys & Girls Clubs of Greater Washington. The summer camp is staffed by MPDC officers and other personnel. Every dollar contributed helps with some repair, and each cabin that is repaired makes it possible to send 80 more children to camp during the summer. The CAC's activities are once again being conducted in memory of Joseph K. Smith, a former CAC member and longtime activist in support of DC youth. As part of this fund-raising effort, the Joseph K. Smith Memorial Summer Camp Fund, under the direction of the CAC, is holding its annual Camp Brown Dinner on Friday, June 2, from 6:30-10 pm, at the Washington Navy Yard, Anacostia Banquet Room (8th and M Streets, SE). Tickets for the dinner are \$40 each; even if you can't make the dinner, donations are accepted. This year's dinner will feature several speakers who have attended Camp Brown and then gone on to do great things. For tickets to the dinner, or to make a donation, make checks payable to the "Joseph K. Smith Memorial Summer Camp Fund," sent to George W. Fenderson, 202 Varnum Street, NW, Washington, DC, 20011. For more information or to support this youth crime prevention effort, contact CAC member Stanley J. Mayes, Treasurer, at (202) 772-3217.

- ① Learn more about the Metropolitan Police Boys and Girls Clubs at:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1237,q,547487,mpdcNav_GID,1549,mpdcNav,_.asp

- ① For information about Citizens Advisory Councils, including the Chief's CAC, go to:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1238,q,542195,mpdcNav_GID,1541.asp

ID OFFICERS HONORED FOR PERSEVERANCE IN GAINING CONVICTION OF ARMED DRUG OFFENDER

Last fall, First District Officers Jeffrey Leslie and Krister Suter were patrolling the 1900 block of Gales Street, NE, in response to residents' complaints about illegal drug sales.

Officers Suter and Leslie observed a male subject walking in the 1900 block of Gales Street, NE. When the subject saw the marked patrol car, he attempted to elude the officers by stepping in between a lamp post and a parked tow truck and kneeling toward the ground. The subject then turned and briskly walked in the opposite direction of the patrol car. Officer Leslie exited the scout car to examine the area that the subject evaded. As Officer Suter detained the subject, Officer Leslie seized 100 zip-lock bags of the suspected narcotics, which were subsequently field tested and determined to be heroin. The subject was arrested and charged with UCSA Possession with Intent to Distribute – Heroin. Due to the circumstances beyond the officers' control, the grand jury did not immediately indict the subject. But Officers Suter and Leslie did not give up. With the assistance of Officer Joseph Chaplin, they obtained a search warrant for the subject's residence. When that was executed, the officers seized approximately 54 grams of crack cocaine and 134 zip-lock bags containing heroin. The search also revealed a digital scale that contained drug residue, a 380-caliber semi-automatic handgun, and \$847 in cash. On March 8, 2006, the subject pled guilty to the drug charges and was sentenced to five years in prison. For their dogged efforts in going after an armed drug offender, Officers Leslie, Suter and Chaplin were honored during this month's CHAMPS Awards Luncheon.

- ① Read more about their actions, as well as the outstanding efforts of the 15 other awardees, at:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1234,q,559975,mpdcNav_GID,1544.asp

- ① CHAMPS (Capital Hotels Award Metropolitan Police Service) is a monthly awards program sponsored by the Hotel Association of Washington, DC. The April awards luncheon was hosted by the Hotel Washington in Northwest.

- ① Members of the public are invited to submit commendations for outstanding MPDC officers anytime, using the online form:

http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1241,q,548642,mpdcNav_GID,1523,mpdcNav,_.asp

REGIONAL SMOOTH OPERATOR PROGRAM TARGETS AGGRESSIVE DRIVING THIS SUMMER

The MPDC and dozens of other law enforcement agencies are teaming up again this spring and summer to put the brakes on aggressive driving in the Washington, DC region. Initiated in 1997, the Smooth Operator campaign works to reduce aggressive driving by blanketing DC, Maryland, Virginia and now Pennsylvania with four, one- to two-week law enforcement waves, combined with an extensive public information campaign. This year's campaign highlights recent research showing that large majorities of "everyday" drivers admit to driving aggressively at some time or another. Aggressively driving is particularly high among young male drivers, the research shows. Later this month, billboards will appear on Metrobuses with the following message: "I'm a son. I'm a sports fan.... I'm an aggressive driver. I'm going to stop, or get tickets, fines & points." Smooth Operator radio ads with the same themes begin airing the week of May 15. The 2006 Smooth Operator campaign brings together approximately 100 participating law enforcement agencies and support organizations, including the MPDC. The first of this year's four enforcement waves will take place May 21-27. Subsequent enforcement waves are scheduled for June, July and August/September. In recent years, well over 200,000 citations a year have been issued during the Smooth Operator campaign – or nearly four times the 62,000 issued during the initial year of 1997. In addition, public awareness of such law enforcement efforts has doubled since the start of regional anti-aggressive driving campaign.

REMEMBER A FALLEN MPDC HERO DURING NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

As thousands of police officers and other supporters from across the country come to DC for National Police Week (May 14-20), the MPDC encourages the DC community to remember its own fallen heroes killed in the line of duty. To honor officers from the Washington, DC region who have died in the line of duty, the Fraternal Order of Police, DC Lodge #1 Auxiliary holds its 27th Annual Memorial Service on Tuesday, May 16th, at the memorial fountain outside MPDC Headquarters. This year's ceremony recognizes four area police officers who died in the line of duty during 2005, including two MPDC members: Officer James McBride and Reserve Officer Joseph Pozell. The MPDC also maintains an on-line memorial to the more than 100 Metropolitan Police officers who have made the ultimate sacrifice in service to the community. The Department invites members of the MPDC, as well as members of the DC community, to submit personal remembrances in honor of the Department's fallen heroes.

NEWS & NOTES

Prom Safety. DC Attorney General Robert J. Spagnoletti has teamed up with the Century Council to offer parents a novel way to remind their teenagers not to drink and drive on prom night: "Send a Text Message." Parents can log on to the Century Council's website and register the cell phone number of their children and the date of the prom. During the prom, teens will receive a message, "Have fun 2night. Stay safe. Don't drink. We care." To sign up for the program, visit <http://www.centurycouncil.org/promtext/index.php>.

Special Meeting for Survivors of Homicide Victims. The MPDC's Violent Crimes Branch invites immediate family members of homicide victims whose deaths occurred from 2004-2006 to attend a special meeting with the detectives working on their loved one's case. Detectives will be available for one-on-one meetings with immediate family members to discuss case status and to solicit any additional information that may be helpful in closing the case. Meetings will take place on Wednesday, May 17, from 3-8 pm, at the Maurice T. Turner Jr., Institute of Police Science, 4665 Blue Plains Drive, SW. For information or to schedule an appointment, call the MPDC's Family Liaison Specialist Unit at (202) 645-6363 or 645-5537.

Chatting with the Chief. Chief Ramsey discusses public safety issues and takes phone calls during his monthly "Chatting with the Chief" segment on WHUR-96.3 FM, from 7:15-7:30 pm on Tuesday, May 16.

- ① For more information, visit:
<http://www.smoothoperatorprogram.com>
- ① Learn more about the MPDC's participation in Smooth Operator at:
http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1240,q,547928,mpdcNav_GID,1552,mpdcNav,|.asp
- ① Individuals can now report aggressive driving to the Smooth Operator program online. This information will help identify future enforcement locations, Details at:
http://www.smoothoperatorprogram.com/aggressive_reporting.php
- ① To read about the heroics of the MPDC officers killed in the line of duty, and to submit a remembrance, please visit:
<http://mpdc.dc.gov/mpdc/cwp/view,a,1233,q,539213,mpdcNav,|31457|.asp>
- ① For a complete list of Police Week events, visit:
<http://www.nleomf.com>

DATA BOX

Homicides	as of 5/12/06
♦ 2006: 50	
♦ 2005: 61	
♦ % Change: -18.0%	
♦ Closure Rate: 55.1% (27 closures)	
Adult Arrests	week end. 5/6/06
♦ Total: 971	
♦ Weapons: 26	
♦ Robbery: 11	
♦ Auto Theft: 18	
♦ Prostitution/Sex Offenses: 40	
♦ Narcotics: 197	
Juvenile Activity	week end. 5/6/06
♦ Arrests: 61	
♦ Curfew Violations: 64	
♦ Truants: 136	
Firearm Recoveries	as of 5/10/06
♦ May: 62	
♦ 2006 Total: 878	
Traffic Fatalities	as of 5/12/06
♦ 2006: 20	
♦ 2005: 16	
♦ % Change: +25.0%	

Information, ideas, or comments about this service? Send an e-mail to **KEVIN MORISON**, MPDC's Director of Corporate Communications, at kevin.morison@dc.gov. Would you like to have this information e-mailed to you? Just go to our Website and register with **Crimereports.com**.

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